WARDEN MESSAGE

NOTICE: Puno Travel Prohibition

Posted: May 27th, 2011

The U.S. Embassy in Lima advises American citizens traveling or residing in Peru that due to continued civil unrest in the city of Puno, the Embassy has suspended all official travel to the region until further notice. Personal travel to the Department of Puno by American personnel is also prohibited. American citizens planning travel to Puno should be aware that roads in and out of the city are currently blocked and access to the airport is difficult. If you are caught in the Puno area, stay inside away from crowds and demonstrations. Travelers may contact IPeru, the Peruvian Tourism Bureau, for information and assistance at (01) 574-8000 or email them at iperu@promperu.gob.pe.

Since demonstrations began on May 9th, the security situation has continued to deteriorate. At this time talks between the government and local groups have been suspended and protestors numbering in the thousands continue to organize strikes, roadblocks, demonstrations and violence against private property and government facilities. The situation is severely impacting movement in and around the city of Puno and to Lake Titicaca extending to the Bolivian border crossing.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the Embassy Lima website. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, the Department of State has a call center for updates: 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

The U.S. Consular Agency in Cusco, Peru, is located at Avenida Pardo 845, Cusco. The office can be reached by phone at (51-84) 231-474 or for emergencies 984-621-369, and is open Monday thru Friday, excluding U.S. and Peruvian holidays, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For any emergencies involving U.S. citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located in Monterrico, a suburb of Lima, at Avenida La Encalada, Block Seventeen; telephone 51-1-618-2000 during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) or for after-hours emergencies; fax 51-1-618-2397, or 618-2724 (American Citizen Services Unit); Internet website at http://lima.usembassy.gov/. The Consular Section is open for American Citizens Services, including registration, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 am weekdays, excluding U.S. and Peruvian holidays.